

July 16, 2018

This is Lieutenant Larry Depee, Commander of the California Highway Patrol, Crescent City Area. Today's topic is difficult to say the least, and sparks a lot of controversy and emotion. However, that is not why I bring it up. I bring it up as an educational opportunity, and to pass on some knowledge that could assist you in the future.

Unfortunately, the term Active Shooter, and Mass Casualty Event have become far too common in today's society.

To be prepared to respond to an incident involving an active shooter, the CHP conducts realistic, active shooter training for departmental personnel, as well as officers from allied law enforcement agencies. Being prepared, through training, rehearsal, and realistic scenarios ensures our best possible response to diminish the threat, and provide immediate life-saving assistance.

We work with fire, EMS, and allied agencies to identify potential targets, develop emergency action plans, and train together using scenario-based training and tabletop exercises. I know it is difficult to accept that we must conduct this type of training, and drills. However, it is meant to benefit not just first responders, but the potential victims of these horrible events.

We are also doing everything we can to work with local schools, to provide staff, and students, with guidelines to help them remain safe, should an incident happen on, or near a school. We can only ask for your patience, and understanding, as this information is disseminated and drills are conducted. Additionally, this training, will only be conducted with your schools concurrence, and approval, so law enforcement will work always with school administrators to do what is right for each school.

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Thank you.